

WJZ-TV
Baltimore, Maryland
Viacom Inc.
QUARTERLY SIGNIFICANT PROGRAMS REPORT
Third Quarter
July 1 – September 30, 2005

Station WJZ-TV, licensed to Viacom Inc., is responsive to the principal issues in its community of license, Baltimore, Maryland on a continuing basis. A variety of program elements, including regularly scheduled news and public affairs programming, reports on breaking news events, documentaries, specials, and public service announcements of concern to the community are included within our regular programming service. WJZ-TV's coverage of news stories, our employees' participation in community affairs, and regular interviews with community leaders have led to the determination that the issues listed are ones of importance to the Baltimore community. Our most significant programming, which dealt with current community issues during the preceding three-month period, are set forth in this report. WJZ-TV broadcasts both locally-produced and network programming. Although we include only local programs herein, WJZ-TV also broadcasts several network broadcasts including FACE THE NATION, 60 MINUTES, CBS REPORTS and 48 HOURS.

PROGRAM INDEX

CONSUMER WATCH

WJZ reporters cover consumer interest topics. These reports air in the 4pm, 5pm and 6pm newscasts.

HEALTHWATCH

WJZ's medical reporter, Kellye Lynn, discusses health issues and interviews experts and patients to deliver information on the latest advances in health for our 4pm, 5pm and 6pm newscasts.

SPECIAL REPORTS

Locally produced special reports, focusing on community issues, local lifestyle trends and local personality profiles. These air in the 4pm, 5pm, 6pm and 11pm newscasts.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OUTREACH

Relevant projects launched by community organizations to benefit area residents.

ON TIME

A half-hour, Sunday morning public affairs program that airs at 6:30AM, focusing on leaders, issues and events, affecting the Baltimore community.

HEALTH

HEALTHWATCH

July 5: Eyewitness News talked to a doctor at St. Joseph Medical Center about the antibiotic Tygacil, which was just approved by the FDA, to help people infected with drug resistant organisms

July 8: Eyewitness News reported a national magazine put Johns Hopkins Hospital at the top of the annual rankings of the best hospitals in America for the 15th straight year. Kellye Lynn interviewed the president of Hopkins and the president of Sinai Hospital, which was also on the top 50 list.

July 12: Eyewitness News talked to Dr. Angela Brodie of the University of Maryland School of Medicine who pioneered research of aromatase inhibitors. Another study confirmed these drugs are more effective than Tamoxifen at preventing breast cancer recurrences.

July 14: Eyewitness News talked to a doctor at St. Joseph Medical Center about a new clinical trial being conducted on a drug eluting stent.

July 18: Eyewitness News talked to an emergency room doctor about the signs of carbon monoxide poisoning after three people died of an apparent carbon monoxide poisoning in their Essex, Baltimore County home.

July 19: Eyewitness News reported for the first time, a study has confirmed a treatment called Lorenzo's Oil can prevent the onset of a rare but devastating neurological disease in young boys. The lead researcher is a doctor at Kennedy Krieger Institute in Baltimore.

July 21: Eyewitness News reported meth use is on the rise on the east coast. Kellye Lynn talked to a recovering addict and an officials from Sheppard Pratt Hospital about the drug.

July 26: Eyewitness News interviewed a doctor at a Hamden dialysis center and a patient about two at-home dialysis machines that were just approved by the F.D.A.

August 8: Eyewitness News talked to a doctor about Sinai Hospital about a report that found improved breast cancer survival rates over the past 30 years are linked to smaller tumors at the time of diagnosis.

August 9: Eyewitness News interviewed a doctor at St. Joseph's Medical Center about the announcement that Dana Reeve has lung cancer.

August 15: Eyewitness News reported people who take over-the-counter painkiller may be at an increased risk of getting hypertension.

August 18: Eyewitness News reported researchers have made a link between French fries and breast cancer.

August 19: Eyewitness News reported the University of Maryland is the first hospital to implant a potentially life saving heart pump.

August 30: Eyewitness News reported St. Joseph Medical Center is using robotics technology to operate on men who have prostate cancer.

August 31: Eyewitness News talked to a Baltimore woman who had a rare procedure to restore use in her hand.

September 12: Eyewitness News reported Baltimore Ravens quarterback Kyle Boller is suffering from a problem known as "Turf Toe."

September 13: Eyewitness News reported a doctor at Mercy Medical Center is performing a minimally invasive knee replacement surgery.

September 20: Eyewitness News reported the University of Maryland Medical Center is celebrating its 1,000th laparoscopic kidney removal.

September 22: Eyewitness News reported a dentist at the University of Maryland Medical Center is helping patients recover from gunshot wounds.

September 23: Eyewitness News reported a Baltimore woman gave birth to quintuplets.

September 29: Eyewitness News talked to a Maryland man who is racing in the Tour of Hope with Lance Armstrong.

September 30: Eyewitness News reported on a new study that found most breast cancers are not linked to ovarian cancer.

ON TIME

July 10: Kai Jackson talks with Dr. Eve Higginbotham about low vision. She describes that low vision encompasses several vision problems from glaucoma to macular degeneration. She tells Kai Jackson that a new interactive display at various malls and libraries in and around Baltimore will offer resources to those with this problem.

July 10: Not only is ground level ozone a problem to those with respiratory problems but so is particle pollution which isn't limited to just the summer months. Harriet West from Clean Air Partners and Julie Orlando a

coordinator of Pulmonary Rehab for Northwest Hospital tell Kai what actions the public needs to take on code orange and code red days. They discuss how to reduce ground level ozone and particle pollution.

July 17: Kai Jackson talks with Bill Vucci and Jim Kane who both have daughters diagnosed with Prader Willi Syndrome, an eating disorder. They discuss the children with this disease want to eat and eat and never feel full. Parents need to carefully monitor their food intake or children can gain a massive amount of weight in a short period of time.

July 17: Kevin Cartwright offers fire safety tips from how to put out a grease fire to why a family escape plan is necessary. He tells Kai Jackson that the City Fire Department installs free smoke detectors to low-income families.

August 28: Kai Jackson talks with Steve Cline the local director of the Partnership for a Drug Free America about the drug problem in Maryland. They discuss why it's important to talk to your children about drug use even if the parent used drugs during their adolescence.

August 28: Dr. Akin Ayeni and Nate Sears talk with Kai Jackson about the Gospel Clinic and their approach to helping addicts kick the habit.

September 11: Tuerk House is a local treatment center located in southwest Baltimore in an area surrounded by large numbers of addicts. Dr. John Hickey and Violetta Daughtry tell Kai Jackson about the success their program is having, one life at a time.

September 18: LeVonnia Harper tells Kai Jackson that African American women tend to get diagnosed for breast cancer after the cancer has spread making treatment and survival more difficult. She shares with Kai her personal story with breast cancer and how the Sisters Network is taking their message of early detection to the African American community.

September 25: Sally Thorner talks with Dr. Lorraine Tafra, the medical director of Anne Arundel Medical Center about the importance of clinical trials and how they impact the treatment of breast cancer. Dr. Tafra tells Sally that clinical trials benefit the patients that participate by offering them better care. The findings of these trials often changes how breast cancer is treated. Dr. Tim Radak, the associate director of nutrition for the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine tells Sally Thorner that there is a direct correlation between the foods we eat and cancer. By avoiding certain types of foods we lessen the chance of getting cancer. He discussed how other foods help to prevent cancer. Emily Parks, the grants and education program manager for Komen Maryland and Stephanie Flaherty, a breast cancer survivor tell Sally Thorner why the Race for the Cure is important.

EDUCATION

July 4: Eyewitness News did a story about the Howard County School Superintendent getting an outstanding performance evaluation.

July 5: Eyewitness News reported on a study that suggests television viewing during childhood has long-term effects on learning

July 14: Eyewitness News did a story about the National Assessment of Educational progress which showed improved test scores for reading and math.

July 14: Eyewitness News did a story about South Frederick Elementary School changing its name to Lincoln Elementary

July 15: Eyewitness News did a story on 145 Maryland schools that are contesting the result of state achievement tests in reading and math.

July 19: Eyewitness News did a story on how a federal judge may have to step in to help special needs students in Baltimore

July 19: Eyewitness News did a story on how six Baltimore schools are classified as dangerous because of the high level of student suspensions and expulsions for violent offenses.

July 22: Eyewitness news did a story about audit problems that turned up in several Maryland school systems.

July 24: Eyewitness News did a story about a teacher shortage in Maryland and how districts are scrambling to fill thousands of positions.

July 28: Eyewitness News did a story on how one Baltimore school is getting a makeover so children don't have to use portable classrooms.

August 5: Eyewitness News reported on how the Anne Arundel County Board of Education is considering a later start time for students.

August 10: Eyewitness News did a story about Baltimore County teachers rallying at the Board of Education for better pay.

August 12: Eyewitness News reported on a ruling by a federal judge which ordered the state to take greater control of the services Baltimore city schools provide for disabled students.

August 17: Eyewitness News reported about the concern that there are not enough teachers in Baltimore City schools with less than two weeks before classes start.

August 17: Eyewitness News reported that Baltimore city voted to renew school superintendent Bonnie Copeland's contract.

August 19: Eyewitness News did a story on a back to school bash in Baltimore which gives needy children back to school supplies.

August 23: Eyewitness News did a story about a Former Carroll County school administrator has been named to oversee Baltimore city's special education program.

August 24: Eyewitness News reported that high school standardized test scores have dropped significantly in Maryland.

August 25: Eyewitness news reported that the Carroll County Board of Education approved plans for a new elementary school that will open in 2008.

August 25: Eyewitness News reported that two Baltimore City Schools now on the Maryland Department of Education's watch list because of lagging test scores.

August 25: Eyewitness News did a story on how Coppin State College is reaching out to Baltimore students by launching a high school on its college campus.

August 26: Eyewitness News did a story on how a non-profit organization will work with Baltimore city schools over the next four years to raise test scores and student grades.

August 30: Eyewitness News did a story on the meeting between the Governor and the State's Board of Education concerning the takeover of Baltimore city's Special Education program.

August 30: Eyewitness News reported on the first day of school for most Maryland students.

September 8: Eyewitness News reports on the surprise resignation of Anne Arundel County's School Superintendent.

September 10: Eyewitness News reports that 270 displaced students because of Hurricane Katrina are now registered in 20 Maryland school districts.

September 13: Eyewitness News reported on a study that found the U-S is ninth among industrialized country for its percentage of high school graduates.

September 14: Eyewitness News did a story about Governor Ehrlich's plan of 30 ways to improve education in Maryland.

September 16: Eyewitness News reported that the Howard County School Superintendent wants nine million dollars to build and renovate schools in that district.

September 18: Eyewitness News did a story on how some city churches are helping to improve Baltimore City Schools.

September 23: Eyewitness News did a story on Governor Ehrlich's plan to spend more than 2 million dollars to bring charter schools to Maryland.

September 26: Eyewitness News did a story on Montgomery county's controversial sex education program.

September 28 and 29: Eyewitness News did a story about whether schools should teach children evolution and about another theory of the origin of life called higher intelligence.

ON TIME

July 10: The Maryland Humanities Council is presenting a Chautauqua, where history comes to life in the form of people portraying historical figures from the past. This year's theme: War and Democracy: Personal Journeys features Abraham Lincoln to Tuskegee Airman Benjamin O. Davis Jr.

July 31: Kai Jackson talks with University of Baltimore Law Professor, F. Michael Higginbotham, about the Supreme Court judge nominee, John Roberts Jr. He discusses Judge Roberts qualifications, past rulings and opinions while working for the Reagan and Bush Sr. administrations. Professor Higginbotham says that full disclosure is needed on all of Judge Roberts correspondence while working for the federal government.

August 28: The Baltimore City Community College is sponsoring a literary salon at this year's Baltimore Book Festival. Kai Jackson talks with Joanne Ekeledo, the director of Alumni Relations and Lee Michael, Heaven 600 Radio Host and author about the authors who are alumni of BCCC that will be participating in readings and book signings at this year's event.

ART & CULTURE

July 1: WJZ did a story on the South African connection to the Lion King.

July 1: Eyewitness news did a story on the Little Italy film festival.

July 6: Eyewitness News Coffee With segment interviews actor Michael Chiklis who plays "the thing" in the film "Fantastic Four".

July 7: Eyewitness News Coffee With segment interviews guitarist Dave Navarro and Brooke Burke, hosts of the CBS show "Rock Star: INXS".

July 8: Eyewitness News "People are Talking" segment promotes the 2005 Summer Concert Series and start of Farmer's Market at The Avenue.

July 9: Eyewitness News Coffee With segment: Previews of the VH1 series "Hogan Knows Best".

July 9: Eyewitness News covered the Negro League Mobile Exhibit.

July 9: Eyewitness News covered the Cylburn Arboretum exhibit.

July 9: Eyewitness News previewed the Orioles Food Drive.

July 10: Eyewitness News covered the new panda at the National Zoo in Washington.

July 16: Eyewitness News covered Caribbean American Festival held in Druid Hill Park.

July 20: Eyewitness News People Are Talking segment was on the Cloisters Theater Project.

July 21: Eyewitness News People Are Talking segment covered a children's fishing festival.

July 21: Eyewitness News covered Artscape 2005 preparations.

July 22: Eyewitness News Coffee With segment interviewed Jazz singer Jonathan Butler.

July 28: Eyewitness News covered the announcement of the 2005 International Festival.

August 2: Eyewitness News did a story on the Aberdeen Ordinance Museum.

August 4: Eyewitness News did a story on an art exhibition opening up at the Maryland Federation of Art.

August 5: Eyewitness News Coffee With segment interviews best selling authors Mark Sceurman and Mark Moran.

August 10: Eyewitness News did a story on the Sarah Jessica Parker film being shot in Annapolis.

August 12: Eyewitness News covered the Kunta Kinte Festival held in Crownsville.

August 13: Eyewitness News covered the Stone Soul Picnic, a celebration of African American culture, music and families.

August 16: Eyewitness News Coffee With segment interviews Phil Gordon, poker pro and host of Bravo's Celebrity Poker Showdown.

August 17: Eyewitness News Coffee With segment interviews Jack Velenti, former head of the Motion Picture Assn. of America.

August 19: Eyewitness News did a story on the movie, March of the Penguins.

August 22: Eyewitness News Coffee With segment interviews Jennifer Bodine whose father, A. Bodine, took famous pictures around Maryland. The photos are now compiled in a book.

August 24: Eyewitness News Coffee With segment interviews actress/singer Hillary Duff.

August 25: Eyewitness News covered the MD State Fair.

August 26: Eyewitness News covered the Pow Wow Festival.

September 2: Eyewitness News covered the re-opening of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Museum.

September 6: Eyewitness News covered auditions for the play "Awesome 80's".

September 7: Eyewitness News covered the military chef cooking competition at Convention Center.

September 7: Eyewitness News did an interview with Lee Ann Womack talking about the Country Music Award nominations.

September 8: Eyewitness News interviewed Carla Gugino who stars in Threshold.

September 14: Eyewitness News Coffee With segment interviews actors Jon Cryer and Charlie Sheen from Two and a Half Men.

September 14: Eyewitness News Coffee With segment interviews Rhonda Britten and Iyanla Vanzant, hosts of Starting Over.

September 15: Eyewitness News Coffee With interviews Jeff Probst, host of Survivor.

September 20: Eyewitness News Coffee With interviews local saxophonist Kim Waters about his new CD.

September 20: Eyewitness News covered Katrina Survivor Concert.

September 21: Eyewitness News People Are Talk segment offers a premiere of "21 Eyes".

September 23: Eyewitness News Coffee With segment interviews Author Dave Pelzer.

September 23: Eyewitness News covered the Baltimore Book Festival.

September 25: Eyewitness News covered Italian Festival.

September 26: Eyewitness News Coffee With segment interviews actor/director Henry Winkler.

September 28: Eyewitness News People Are Talking segment promotes the Awesome 80's Prom.

September 30: Eyewitness News People Are Talking segment promotes the Sugarloaf Craft Festival.

ON TIME

July 3: Pennsylvania Avenue used to be the hub of African American entertainment during the early to mid 1900's. The Royal Theatre featured legendary greats including Eubie Blake, Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald and Duke Ellington before the building was torn down in the 1970's. George Gilliam and Jim Hamlin tell Kai Jackson how they are revitalizing Pennsylvania Avenue and have scheduled several concerts back on "the avenue."

July 17: Author Yasmin Shiraz tells Kai Jackson why she wrote "The Blueprint for my Girls-in Love." Her book examines realistic situations young girls face and offers common sense advice to these complex problems facing teenage girls.

August 7: Kai Jackson talks with Kunta Kinte representatives about this year's two-day festival being held in Anne Arundel County at the fairgrounds in Crownsville. They discuss how the festival began and its association with Alex Haley's book Roots. Marty Mahoney and Sherman Watts talk to Kai Jackson about the gospel music that they'll be performing at the Kunta Kinte Heritage Festival. Youth magician Eric Redman joins Kai Jackson and gets him to participate in a magic trick. Eric is one of the featured performers at this year's Kunta Kinte Heritage Festival.

August 14: Kai Jackson talks with author Keith Boykin about the new cultural term "being on the down low." According to Keith Boykin, the down low, has been going on for years and refers to all men who cheat on wives and girlfriends with other men or other women and isn't limited to just African American men. He says that this is not a new cultural phenomenon.

August 14: In her novel, author Victoria Christopher Murray writes about a married woman who has just found out that her husband has been on the down low with another man. She explores this topic from the woman's point of view.

August 14: Author Yasmin Shiraz tells Kai Jackson that she wrote the follow-up to her popular Blueprint for My Girls to specifically discuss dating and topics related to love. In this book, she offers real life situations and issues to be considered before making decisions.

August 21: Kai Jackson talks with Eunice Moseley the promotions director and organizer of the Uplifting Minds II Talent Competition about the competition. Actress Angela Maria Dixon tells Kai what she'll be looking for in contestants as she judges their performance. Neenah Taylor who won the April talent competition sings her version of the National Anthem, which earned her top honors.

September 18: Kai Jackson talks with Marco Merrick and Darin Atwater about an upcoming benefit concert for the Nathan Carter Foundation being held at Morgan State University. Dr. Carter, who died a year ago, brought critical acclaim to Morgan's chorus. His foundation awards scholarships to student who pursues music studies.

COMMUNITY

July 8: Eyewitness News did a story on historic Cross Street market renovations.

July 8: Eyewitness News covered the Orioles Food Drive.

July 9: Eyewitness News covered the Owings Mills Mall development.

July 12: Eyewitness News did a story on the amount of food and money collected in the Orioles Food Drive that benefits the Maryland Food Bank.

July 12: Eyewitness News covered record home prices in Maryland.

July 14: Eyewitness News covered Hispanic youth summit.

July 18: Eyewitness News covered Towson security cameras.

July 18: Eyewitness News covered a community walk for decrease in crime.

July 19: Eyewitness News People Are Talking segment promoted the Druid Park tennis camp offered by the city's recreation department.

July 19: Eyewitness News covered Camp Lion King.

July 25: Eyewitness News covered a city school's tutor recruitment drive.

July 26: Eyewitness News covered the Maryland teacher shortage.

August 1: Eyewitness News did a story on how the CARES food program of GEDCO ran out of food and was unable to help needy city residents.

August 3: Eyewitness News did a story on Wagner's Point rejuvenation.

August 6: Eyewitness News did a story on food stamps for seniors.

August 6: Eyewitness News did a story on minority business contracts.

August 10: Eyewitness News did a story on the makeover of the Enchanted Forest.

August 12: Eyewitness News covered the start of the World Youth Day.

August 12: Eyewitness News did a story on minorities and Maryland growth.

August 17: Eyewitness News covered the start of the new Beltway project.

August 18: Eyewitness News covered teen drug survey.

August 22: Eyewitness News covered Essex apartment complex concerns.

September 5: Eyewitness News covered Maryland's response to Hurricane Katrina.

September 7: Eyewitness News covered BWI firefighters charges of racism.

September 7: Eyewitness News did a story on how WJZ is partnering with the Red Cross to raise money for victims of Hurricane Katrina.

September 7: Eyewitness News covered citywide prayer service for Hurricane Katrina victims.

September 8: Eyewitness News covered how Baltimore City is responding with help to the hurricane crisis.

September 19: Eyewitness News covered grants for Chesapeake Bay.

September 19: Eyewitness News covered the anniversary of Hurricane Isabel by looking back at communities hit hardest and drawing comparisons to Hurricane Katrina victims.

September 21: Eyewitness News did a story on volunteers from the Home Depot helping to build Annie's Playground.

September 23: Eyewitness News covered registration for the Komen Maryland Race for the Cure.

September 28: Eyewitness News covered grand opening of Hunt Valley Town Center.

September 29: Eyewitness News People Are Talking segment covered the grand opening of Wegmans in the New Hunt Valley Town Center.

ON TIME

July 3: Kai Jackson talks with Bill Ewing, director of the Maryland Food Bank, about the increase number of people in Maryland who do not have money to buy food and rely on soup kitchens for help. All areas of the state and all ages are affected. They discuss the new warehouse that the Md. Food Bank has purchased and how they will be able to expand services to more needy people. Bill Ewing discusses the upcoming Orioles WJZ Food Drive and how this campaign lifts many people's spirits.

July 3: Not only do people have to make choices between paying for food, rent, or medications, they also have to worry about utility bills. Many people are unaware that more people die during the heat wave of summertime than during the cold winter months due to BGE shut-off notices. Lil Knipp and Paulette Pettit-Austrich tell Kai Jackson about the Fuel Funds program that helps low income people pay their utility bills.

July 31: August 6 is the 40th anniversary of the signing of the 1965 Voting Rights Act and Senator Lisa Gladden from Baltimore's 41st district explains to Kai Jackson why protecting these voting rights are still an issue in 2005. She discusses several bills that she co-sponsored that were passed by the Maryland House and Senate that were vetoed by Governor Ehrlich that would have addressed current barriers to voting. A rally is planned on August 4 to demonstrate support for voters rights.

July 31: Maryland along with Washington DC and Virginia are sponsoring a thirteen day amnesty program for non-custodial parents who are delinquent on their child support payments. Kai Jackson talks with the executive director of the state's child enforcement agency about how the amnesty programs works and who is eligible to participate.

August 21: It was fifty years ago that the 14 year-old Emmett Till was murdered after whistling at a Caucasian woman in the deep South. His death helped to energize the civil rights movement. Dr. Joanne Martin from the National Great Blacks in Wax and Dr. Michelle Bondima, a commissioner with the Baltimore Community Relations Commission tell Kai Jackson about an upcoming program at the Enoch Pratt Free Library entitled "Remembering Emmett Till" that features a documentary film screening and panel discussion.

August 21: The Men's Center in East Baltimore works to reunite men with their children by addressing many problems that keep families apart. Leon Purnell, the director, tells Kai Jackson that his center tackles problems ranging from child support payments to parenting skills. They are sponsoring a back to school rally and have asked for donations of school supplies.

September 11: Dr. Tyrone Taborn tells Kai Jackson about the need to get more minorities to enter the field of research science. His organization is sponsoring a national conference that features top researchers around the world as participants.

September 11: The horror of Hurricane Katrina, now two weeks old, is still unfolding. Kai Jackson talks with Dr. John Jackson about the NAACP's role in helping those affected by the disaster.

September 18: Sharon Williams tells Kai Jackson how money raised at the Celebrity Golf Tournament is going towards several youth programs including a new initiative to stop underage drinking and smoking.

CONSUMER ISSUES

July 1: Consumer Watch: Wonder Bread is coming out with a 100% whole wheat loaf, containing three times the fiber of white bread.

July 3: Consumer Watch: An ice cream recall after 14 people in four states have gotten sick from a possible salmonella contamination at Cold Stone Ice Creamery.

July 4: Consumer Watch: Buying the store brands when you go shopping, could save you thousands each year, and not cost you anything in quality. That's according to a new consumer reports study.

July 5: Trampoline Safety in 2003, more than 8 thousand children were treated in emergency rooms for trampoline related injuries. The sporting goods manufactures association has come up with some advice on keeping kids safe.

July 6: Consumer Watch: USAIR is doing away with free bags of pretzels because they say its an attempt to save the airline a million dollars a year.

July 7: Consumer Watch: Auto Incentives - Chrysler Group is offering customers a 35 hundred dollar cash back incentive. Its part of the ongoing price war among carmakers.

July 11: Consumer Watch: Dairy Industry Cloned Cows Milk – The dairy industry is fighting an attempt to lift a ban to allowed milk from cloned cows to enter the marketplace.

July 12: Consumer Watch: Cell Phone Study - A new study by the insurance industry says drivers using cell phones are four times more likely to crash.

July 13: Consumer Watch: Ford Investigation: The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says some Ford Mustangs and SUVs are under investigation for complaints that the engine throttles get stuck in the Ford Explorer and Ford Mountaineer.

July 14: Consumer Watch: Macy's Hecht's - The 11 billion dollar merger of Macy's and Hecht's is approved.

July 18: Consumer Watch: Luxury Crash Test - the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety puts luxury cars to the test. The Audi A-6 and the Infinity M-35 earned the highest ratings for front and side impact crash tests.

July 19: Consumer Watch: Hewlett Packard is cutting 15 thousand jobs. They say this will save them nearly 2 billion dollars a year, and make them more competitive.

July 19: Consumer Watch: Most Stolen Cars - The 1999 Acura Integra was the most stolen car in 2004. Second on the list is the 2002 BMW 'M' Roadster.

July 20: Consumer Watch: Livable Cities - Money Magazine reports Ellicott City and Gaithersburg in Montgomery County are two of the best places in America to live.

July 22: Consumer Watch: USAir and America West are one step closer to merging. The airlines want to merge so they can compete against lower cost rivals.

July 22: Consumer Watch: Lennox china and crystal maker is getting a new owner. Minnesota based "dept 56" plans to pay 190 million cash.

July 22: Consumer Watch: GM announces it will end discount employee discounts for new car buyers on August 1.

July 29: Consumer Watch: Energy Bill - the Senate passed a 12.3 billion dollar energy bill. The House has already approved it. The bill would overhaul the nations energy policies over the next 13 years.

August 2: Consumer Watch: Chrysler Manufacturing - the company will unveil plans in the falls that they will manufacture 2 or 3 completely different cars at the same plant.

August 4: Consumer Watch: MCI Hunt Valley Layoffs - about 300 workers are being laid off in Hunt Valley, as the company streamlines its telemarketing operations.

August 7: Consumer Watch: Premium Gas Prices - because of the high cost of gas, some drivers are switching from premium to regular unleaded.

August 10: Consumer Watch: Space Travel -he company " space travel" is offering seats on a flight to the moon in 2008 and 2009. The price is \$100 million dollars per seat.

August 11: Consumer Watch: Airfare and fuel hike - rising cost f fuel is being passed on to airline customers. United Air is increasing fare \$2.50 per each way. Delta raising prices \$10 per fare.

August 12: Consumer Watch: Used Car Bargains - a surge in new car sales triggered by employee pricing discounts has caused used car sales to drop.

August 12: Consumer Watch: Accutane Registry - anyone who uses, prescribes or dispenses the drug accutane must now go through a registry to get the drug. The FDA says after 20 years of consumer warnings that the drug can cause birth defects and people are still taking it irresponsibly.

August 15: Consumer Watch: Federal safety inspectors are considering a major recall involving Ford vehicles. Some cars are catching fire even when they are parked and locked.

August 16: Consumer Watch: Credit Report Laws - The FTC accuses Experian Credit Bureau of misleading consumers into paying for services that they do not want.

August 17: Consumer Watch: The rising cost of fuel is forcing some restaurants to increase prices for entrees. A 20-dollar entree will increase by \$3 because of the high cost of seafood being trucked from the coast.

August 19: Consumer Watch: Cell Phone TV - Qualcomm is testing a new cell phone that will allow consumers to send pictures, get video on demand and soon live television plus talk on the phone.

August 19: Consumer Watch: New criticism of ATV's prompts the Consumer Products Safety Commission to order a full safety review.

August 22: Consumer Watch: Northwest Airlines Strike: 44 hundred mechanics, cleaners and custodians walked off the job over a contract dispute. The company wants them to take pay cuts among other issues.

August 22: Consumer Watch: A Wisconsin company is recalling beef it shipped out, before learning that they had violated mad cow disease rules.

August 24: Consumer Watch: AOL settlement - AOL will shell out one and a quarter million dollars to settle an investigation by New York's Attorney General. About 300 people filed complaints that their request to cancel AOL service were ignored.

August 24: Consumer Watch: High speed internet - Yahoo and Verizon are joining forces to offer low cost high-speed internet service.

August 25: Consumer Watch: GE employee discount program - GE is extending the program through September 30th.

August 27: Consumer Watch: Gas Prices - Eyewitness News interviews one family who is trading in their gas-guzzler because of high fuel costs.

August 28: Consumer Watch: Housing Bubble - Federal Reserve Chairman, Alan Greenspan, says the red hot housing market is about to slow down.

August 29: Consumer Watch: Sealant Recall - A popular sealant used in many homes is being recalled, after some consumers complained of health problems.

August 30: Consumer Watch: GM is recalling 800 thousand SUVs and pickup trucks in 14 states. There are reports of problems with the anti-lock brakes of 1999-2002 models of the Chevrolet Avalanche, Tahoe, Sierra and Yukon.

August 31: Consumer Watch: Macy's Hecht's - Federated Department stores has agreed to sell Hecht's in Wheaton and Macy's in Owings Mills, White Marsh and Glen Burnie.

August 31: Consumer Watch: Free credit report - Starting October 1, you'll be able to request a free credit report.

August 31: Consumer Watch: Helmet Recall - Target is recalling some children bicycle helmets because they don't meet safety requirements.

September 1: Consumer Watch: Free Credit Reports - starting today consumers can request one free credit report per year. The FTC says the program is aimed and helping people looking to buy homes, get loans and those concerned about identity theft.

September 3: Consumer Watch: Laptop Computers - The Wall Street Journal reports the prices for lap top computers are coming down.

September 6: Consumer Watch: File Swapping - a popular file swapping network, Kazaa, is given 2 months to clean up its act.

September 7: Consumer Watch: Ford recall - Ford is recalling nearly 4 million SUVs and trucks because of a problem with the cruise control that could cause fires.

September 7: Consumer Watch: Orchid Island Juice is recalling its product because it may be contaminated with salmonella.

September 8: Consumer Watch: Estimate Gas Mileage - the estimated gas mileage posted on your new car may be misleading.

September 8: Consumer Watch: Motorcycle Airbags - Honda is working on its first ever airbags for motorcycles.

September 8: Consumer Watch: I-Pod phone - Cingular is coming out with a new ipod phone. For \$250 dollars the phone will hold about 100 songs.

September 12: Consumer Watch: Delta Airlines plans to file for bankruptcy.

September 12: Consumer Watch: High heating Bills - heating bills are expected to soar this winter as the cost of fuel escalates.

September 13: Consumer Watch: Katrina Gas Prices - Steep gas prices because of Hurricane Katrina are expected to level off this week.

September 14: Consumer Watch: Delta and NorthWest Airlines filed for bankruptcy today.

September 15: Consumer Watch: Airline Dilemma - Eyewitness News takes a closer look at the bankruptcy of Delta and NorthWest airlines and how it could affect BWI.

September 17: Consumer Watch: Gas and Debit Cards - there could be some hidden costs with paying for gasoline with your debit/credit cards.

September 19: Consumer Watch: Mini-van crash tests - the Institute for Highway Safety gives most mini-vans poor safety ratings.

September 19: Consumer Watch: Short Term Interest Rates are expected to rise for the 11th straight time this week.

September 20: Consumer Watch: Simmon Air launches 9 daily round trip flights from BWI to Ocean City.

September 21: Consumer Watch: Hurricane Rita and Refineries - If Rita hits refineries in Texas consumers across the country could see gas prices at 3 bucks a gallon and more.

September 21: Consumer Watch: Tattoo Ink Warning - Two tattoo ink manufactures, Huck Spaulding and Superior Tattoo Equipment must put warning labels on their bottle, catalogs and website, that their ink may contain lead and arsenic and can cause cancer and birth defects.

September 22: Consumer Watch: Delta Bankruptcy Fallout - Delta announces it will cut 9,000 jobs as it tried to restructure following their recent bankruptcy.

September 23: Consumer Watch: Internet Users - a new poll says Cox and Yahoo have the happiest internet users.

September 26: Consumer Watch: Gas and Gouging - according to a new poll, 90 percent of Americans think they are being gouged at the pump in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

September 27: Consumer Watch: Hurricane Scam - some cars flooded in hurricanes are dried out, cleaned up and later resold to unsuspecting buyers.